

Washington Whispers®

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Reds Run Arab Blockade . . . What MacArthur Told Kennedy, Nixon . . . Freeman Scores in Congress

Gen. Douglas MacArthur is understood to have told Mr. Kennedy that the President just happens to be living in the "chicken house" when the "chickens" hatched from policy mistakes of the past "are coming home to roost."

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Richard Nixon, former Vice President, heard from General MacArthur that in the General's view it solves little to deal in a military way with Castro in Cuba when the real trouble lies in Moscow.

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The U. S. Chiefs of Staff had nothing to do with the actual planning of the ill-fated "invasion" of Cuba. Planners of that invasion made mistakes of the simplest kind that no U. S. military man with experience in amphibious operations would have made

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Dean Rusk, Secretary of State, and White House aides on foreign policy are being shot at after the fiasco in Cuba and because of impending loss of Laos to the Reds. President Kennedy, however, is not blaming anyone but himself for the setbacks abroad.

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William Fulbright, Arkansas Senator and chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, will be in line to become Secretary of State when and if there is a change in that office. Adlai Stevenson, U.S. Representative at the United Nations, is not now one of the inner circle.

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Gen. Maxwell Taylor, former Joint Staff Chief, who resigned when in disagreement over U. S. defense policy stands high with President Kennedy and is reported to be his like.

for Chairmanship of the Joint Chiefs of Staff when the term of Gen. Lyman Lemnitzer ends.

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Walt W. Rostow, White House aide, despite reports to the contrary had no part in either the preliminary planning or the decisions related to the venture in Cuba.

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One complaint beginning to be heard in Washington is that the professors who are doing much of the thinking put so much stress on the "complexities of the situation" that they never find time to get around to a few simplifications. Said a high military official: "Sometimes it is better to do some thinking with your guts."

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When the Department of State the other day convinced former President Eisenhower that he should cancel his proposed trip to Japan, even as a private citizen an important Japanese official made this remark to an American in Tokyo: "At least your State Department doesn't make the same mistake twice. The last time the cancellation was too late. This time it was too early." Communists consider they have scored another big victory.

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Robert F. Kennedy, the President's younger brother, who is Attorney General and on the highly important committee investigating this country's capabilities, is putting in from 16 to 18 hours a day. An aide remarked: "He looks it, too. It's a good thing that he's young."

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Leaders of Red China are pictured as bitter toward Khrushchev because he is not ready now to give them a green

light for an attack on Formosa, which they think is needed to take people's minds off their hunger

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Agents of Egypt's Nasser have just caught the Russians trying to run the Arab blockade of Israel. The agents, going through a Soviet airplane at Cairo, found crates routed to Israel that they confiscated. The usual Soviet air route to avoid the Arab blockade is by way either of Italy or Albania

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Nikita Khrushchev was swimming and joking with the West German Ambassador in the pool of the dictator's Sochi retreat on the Black Sea at the same time that his own Ambassador in London was delivering a note denouncing the West Germans as aggressive, militaristic and seekers of revenge. The mixture of banter and invective is being described by the Germans as typical of the present Khrushchev style.

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When a U. S. official remarked to a Cabinet Minister in the Government of Nepal that Nepal should pay a larger part of its own development costs, the Minister replied: "But who should we? So many countries are willing and anxious to put up the money."

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Orville Freeman, Secretary of Agriculture, is credited with a good selling job when he induced chairmen of committees on agriculture in both houses of Congress to introduce the Administration's new farm plan despite their earlier opposition. He did it by agreeing that Congress should pass on any farm plan before it is sent to farmers for a vote.